

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated August 14, 2003. Claims 13 to 22 remain pending in the application, with Claims 13 and 18, the independent claims herein, having been amended. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 13 to 15 and 18 to 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,028,513 (Addy), Claims 16 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Addy in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,706,191 (Bassett), and Claims 17 and 22 were rejected under § 103(a) over Addy in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,259,548 (Fahey). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention concerns transmission of warning information by electronic devices. According to the invention, when a warning status is detected by an electronic device, if the detected warning status is not released within a predetermined time, warning information indicating that the warning status has occurred is transmitted to a registered device that has been registered by a user in the electronic device as a device that is to receive the warning information. If the warning status is not released in spite of the warning information being transmitted to the registered device, the warning information is transmitted to an unregistered device that has not been registered by the user in the electronic device as a device that is to receive the warning information. As a result, when a warning occurs in an electronic device, the electronic device transmits warning information to a device that the user has registered as a device that is to receive the warning information.

Referring specifically to the claims, amended independent Claim 13 is an electronic device, comprising a detecting unit adapted to detect whether a warning status has occurred, a warning unit adapted to notify a user that the warning status has occurred, and a communication unit adapted to transmit warning information indicating

that the warning status has occurred, wherein, if the detected warning status is not released within a predetermined time, the communication unit is adapted to transmit the warning information to a registered device that has been registered by the user in the electronic device as a device to receive the warning information, and wherein, if the detected warning status is not released in spite of transmitting the warning information to the registered device, the communication unit is adapted to transmit the warning information to an unregistered device that has not been registered by the user in the electronic device.

Amended independent Claim 18 is a method claim that substantially corresponds to Claim 13.

The applied art, alone or in combination, is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of amended independent Claims 13 and 18. In particular, the applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of, if an electronic device detects a warning status and the warning status is not released with a predetermined time, the electronic device transmitting warning information to a registered device that has been registered by a user in the electronic device as a device that is to receive the warning information. Additionally, the applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of, if the detected warning status is not released in spite of transmitting the warning information to the registered device, the electronic device transmitting the warning information to an unregistered device that has not been registered by the user in the electronic device as a device that is to receive the warning information.

Addy is seen to disclose a wireless alarm system. An initiating alarm device 22 detects an alarm condition and transmits, via a wireless radio frequency, an alarm signal to a central receiver 14. The central receiver 14 passes the received alarm signal to a controller 11 that activates a siren 18 and, if appropriate, dials a police or fire department via a dialer 20. The controller also initiates a broadcast process of broadcasting an alarm signal to all other alarm devices in the system. The broadcast alarm signal may include

addresses or identities that identify alarm devices in the system that are to be activated upon receiving the broadcast signal. The addresses or identifiers may be obtained from a look-up table and may correspond to alarm devices in a vicinity of the device that initiated the alarm signal, or may be based upon some preset order in which the alarm devices 24 are to be activated. Upon receiving the broadcast alarm signal, the other alarm devices 24 determine whether or not to activate based on the addresses included in the broadcast alarm signal. (See column 5, lines 1 to 67.)

As can be seen from the foregoing, the alarm device 22 that detects the alarm condition merely transmits an alarm signal via a preset radio band frequency corresponding to the frequency of the central receiver 14. Therefore, the alarm device 22 merely transmits the alarm signal on a given frequency to be received by a device on the same frequency. In contrast, in the present invention, a specific device that is to receive the warning information is registered in the electronic device that detects the warning and therefore, the warning information is transmitted to the registered device. Accordingly, since the alarm device 22 merely transmits an alarm signal on a given frequency rather than transmitting the alarm signal to a specific registered device, Addy is not seen to transmit warning information to a registered device that has been registered by a user in the electronic device as a device that is to receive the warning information. Moreover, since the alarm device 22 does not transmit warning information to a registered device, it also cannot transmit the warning information to an unregistered device that has not been registered by the user in the electronic device as a device that is to receive the warning information *if the detected warning status is not released in spite of transmitting the warning information to the registered device.* (emphasis added)

Turning now to Addy's central control unit 12, the central receiver 14 receives the alarm signal from the alarm device 22 and informs the controller 11 of the alarm signal. The alarm signal includes an identifier of the alarm device 22 which is used

by the controller 11 to determine addresses of other alarm devices 24 to be activated in a vicinity of the alarm device 22. If the alarm signal is still present after a predetermined delay, then additional alarm devices could be activated in peripheral zones. (See column 6, lines 1 to 13.) Thus, the central control unit 12 is similar to the alarm unit 22 in that it simply broadcasts the alarm signal on a given frequency so that all other device operating on the same frequency can receive the signal. As such, the broadcast signal is not seen to be transmitted to a device that has been registered in the control unit as a device that is to receive the alarm signal.

While the broadcast signal of Addy may include identifiers of alarm devices 24 that are to be activated, the identifiers are not used to register devices that are to receive the broadcast alarm signal. That is, the broadcast signal is transmitted by the control unit for all alarm devices 24 operating on the same frequency to receive the broadcast signal, and upon receiving the signal, the alarm devices 24 use the identifier to determine whether or not to activate. Thus, the devices whose identifier is included in a look-up table in the control unit 12 are not registered as a device that is to receive the broadcast signal, but rather, are merely a device that is identified for activation. All of the alarm devices 24 receive the broadcast signal whether or not their identifier is included in the broadcast signal, with only the devices whose identifier is included in the broadcast signal being activated. Accordingly, the control unit 12 of Addy is also not seen to transmit warning information to a registered device that has been registered by a user in the electronic device as a device that is to receive the warning information. Moreover, since the control unit 12 does not transmit warning information to a registered device that is to receive the warning information, it also cannot transmit the warning information to an unregistered device that has not been registered by the user in the electronic device as a device that is to receive the warning information *if the detected warning status is not released in spite of transmitting the warning information to the registered device.* (emphasis added)

In view of the foregoing, amended independent Claims 13 and 18 are not believed to be anticipated by Addy.

Bassett and Fahey are not seen to add anything that, when combined with Addy, would have rendered the present invention of amended independent Claims 13 and 18 obvious. In this regard, Bassett is merely seen to disclose communication between appliances and/or an appliance and a control system in a home. However, nothing has been found in Bassett that discloses or suggests at least the feature of, if an electronic device detects a warning status and the warning status is not released with a predetermined time, the electronic device transmitting warning information to a registered device that has been registered by a user in the electronic device as a device that is to receive the warning information. Additionally, Bassett is not seen to disclose or to suggest anything that when combined with Addy teaches at least the feature of, if the detected warning status is not released in spite of transmitting the warning information to the registered device, the electronic device transmitting the warning information to an unregistered device that has not been registered by the user in the electronic device as a device that is to receive the warning information.

Fahey is merely seen to disclose a home health care system in which sensors in a home monitor activities and provide data to a remote control unit that periodically transmits the data to a central processor via a telephone line. However, Fahey is not seen to disclose or to suggest anything that when combined with Addy and Bassett would have taught at least the feature of, if an electronic device detects a warning status and the warning status is not released with a predetermined time, the electronic device transmitting warning information to a registered device that has been registered by a user in the electronic device as a device that is to receive the warning information. Additionally, Fahey, like Addy and Bassett, is not seen to disclose or to suggest anything that when combined with Addy teaches at least the feature of, if the detected warning status is not

released in spite of transmitting the warning information to the registered device, the electronic device transmitting the warning information to an unregistered device that has not been registered by the user in the electronic device as a device that is to receive the warning information.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all of Claims 13 to 22 are believed to be allowable.

No other matters having been raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,


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